English

Be Part Of Something Bigger...Become a Hero...
Oleshky: Russia’s Deliberate Humanitarian Catastrophe
Russia’s War on Ukrainian Civilians: 2026’s Devastating Toll

DONATE

Posts About Ukraine

OLESHKY: RUSSIA’S DELIBERATE HUMANITARIAN CATASTROPHE

Why Surrendering Land Is Never the Answer

by Opt@Passingthrough.Net | 01/04/2026 | 8 minutes read

Before the full-scale invasion, Oleshky was a city of 40,000 people — an ordinary Ukrainian community on the left bank of the Dnipro River, just across the water from Kherson. Russia occupied it in the earliest days of the war. Then, in June 2023, Russian forces destroyed the Kakhovka Dam, flooding much of the city. While the waters rose, Russian forces reportedly prevented locals from leaving and later confiscated humanitarian aid. An Associated Press investigation found that the dam’s destruction killed at least hundreds in Oleshky alone — not

STAY UPDATED ON U

Get firsthand reports from Ukraine — humanitarian medical missions and ways

We use cookies to improve your experience on our site. By using our site, you consent to cookies.

Preferences

Reject

Accept All

0

English

Be Part Of Something Bigger...Become a Hero...
Oleshky: Russia's Deliberate Humanitarian Catastrophe
Russia's War on Ukrainian Civilians: 2026's Devastating Toll

DONATE

March 2026, the last functioning ambulance exploded on a mine on that same road.

Consider what happened on 5 March. Two vehicles managed to bring provisions into the city. Word spread quickly. By morning, a long line had formed outside the grocery store. Instead, four drones attacked the gathering, wounding ten people and killing two civilians. The wounded were transported to hospital in a wheelbarrow.

People queuing for bread. Attacked by drones.

Two to three people die in Oleshky every day — from malnutrition, heart attacks, shelling. Russian FPV drone operators use moving targets for training, including civilians, vehicles, and animals. Residents call it "human safari." One elderly man was killed by occupiers when he tried to stop them looting food from his cellar.

The hospital treats only Russian military personnel. Ukrainian residents are turned away. The building has had no reliable power, water, or gas for years.

And there is Alyona. Her husband was injured by a Russian drone and sent home from hospital without medication. Back home without heat or power, she washed his bandages by hand with water melted from snow and boiled the last three potatoes on an outdoor fire. She called a cousin to say she wasn't sure they would survive. By March, the cousin had heard nothing. She comforts herself with the knowledge that phones cannot be charged and communications are down.

There is also a woman counting her flour. She has enough for one more loaf. After that, a few frozen pumpkins. Some cereals. Whatever she can barter with neighbours who have equally little. She has not tasted dairy since December. She cooks on a wood-burning stove outside because there is nothing else. She is down to her last cup of flour, cooking on an open fire in the ruins of the life she used to have.

INSTAGRAM

Excellent rating
Based on 25 reviews
Google

I loved the earrings and especially the trysub pendant. Anything to support the beautiful...
Read more

Reg Sypher
4 June 2025

Verifie

IIElevenl

Thankyou so much to Elev
the use of their product to
voiceovers and translatior
Ukrainian medical ed mat
audiobooks.

We use cookies to improve your experience on our site. By using our site, you consent to cookies.

0

English

Be Part Of Something Bigger...Become a Hero...

Oleshky: Russia's Deliberate Humanitarian Catastrophe

Russia's War on Ukrainian Civilians: 2026's Devastating Toll

DONATE

FILE - Houses are seen underwater in the flooded town of Oleshky, Ukraine, June 10, 2023. An AP investigation has found that Russian occupation authorities vastly and deliberately undercounted the dead in one of the most devastating chapters of the 22-month war in Ukraine - the flooding that followed the catastrophic explosion that destroyed the Kakhovka Dam in the southern Kherson region. (AP Photo/Evgeniy Maloletka, File)

I have been a doctor for over thirty years. I have worked in difficult environments and seen suffering that stays with you. But some details from Oleshky stop me cold.

The dead are being buried in plastic bags. In the best case, a handwritten plaque marks the date of birth, date of death, and name. A man who died in December lay unburied for nearly two months before anyone came. The city morgue has had no electricity for four years. In mid-March, it was hit by a shell. Although it is full, Russian authorities do not permit burials. Along the road toward Crimea, bodies lie uncollected, consumed by stray dogs. People are afraid to stop and approach them — stopping means becoming a drone target yourself.

To deny someone a dignified burial is one of the oldest forms of dehumanisation. Russia is doing this systematically, deliberately, in 2026.

And then there is the deliberate erasure of identity — what journalist Zarina Zabrisky, reporting for Meidas+, documents as a parallel campaign running alongside the physical siege. Russian propaganda tells residents still in occupied territory that they are not welcome back in Ukraine. Fake Ukrainian leaflets dropped by drones threaten locals, calling them "collaborators." Russian soldiers set up Ukrainian flags in the street and watch to see who reacts with sympathy — then arrest them.

One family was stopped at a checkpoint when soldiers found a deleted Ukrainian bank app on the husband's phone. The couple was taken to their home, tied to chairs, and had needles

We use cookies to improve your experience on our site. By using our site, you consent to cookies.

0

English

Be Part Of Something Bigger...Become a Hero...
Oleshky: Russia's Deliberate Humanitarian Catastrophe
Russia's War on Ukrainian Civilians: 2026's Devastating Toll

DONATE

commentators suggest that territorial concessions are the "pragmatic" path to peace, I want them to understand what they are asking Ukrainians to accept. Not inconvenience. Not reduced sovereignty in the abstract. This. Alyona melting snow to wash her husband's bandages. Children choosing between starvation and a mined road. Bodies in plastic bags. People tortured for having a bank app on their phone.

The UN Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights has confirmed that evacuation from Oleshky is extremely difficult and dangerous, leaving many people trapped close to the frontline, with critical humanitarian needs going unmet. The international community's silence is its own kind of verdict.

What can you do?

Speak up. Write to your local MP, your senator, your federal representative. Australia has a voice in the international conversation on Ukraine. Use yours. Ask your government to press for humanitarian corridors. Ask them to name what is happening in Oleshky for what it is: a war crime.

And if you can, please support our medical and humanitarian aid mission directly. Our partners on the ground in Ukraine work with people like this every day — those who have survived occupation and emerged with nothing: untreated wounds, unmanaged chronic conditions, no documents, no money, nowhere to go. Medicine, surgical supplies, evacuation support, and hands-on care delivered in conditions most of us cannot imagine. That is what your support makes possible.

The woman counting her last cup of flour is running out of time.

So is our window to make a difference.

Sign up to support Ukraine here

Sources

1. Zarina Zabrisky, *Besieged Oleshki: Humanitarian Collapse Under Russian Control*, Meidas+, 26 March 2026 https://www.meidasplus.com/p/besieged-oleshki-humanitarian-collapse
2. *Occupied Oleshky Faces Blockade: Civilians Die Trying To Bring Bread*, Ukrinform via MENAFN, 25 February 2026 https://menafn.com/1110789968/Occupied-Oleshky-Faces-Blockade-Civilians-Die-Trying-To-Bring-Bread
3. *In Occupied Oleshky, No One Left To Bury Dead*, Ukrinform via MENAFN, 25 February 2026 https://menafn.com/1110788736/In-Occupied-Oleshky-No-One-Left-To-Bury-Dead

We use cookies to improve your experience on our site. By using our site, you consent to cookies.

0

Learn more about the author HERE...

You Might Be Interested In

Medical Mission in Ukraine 2025 (4)
12/05/2025

Stop Russian Oil Profits in Australia
04/06/2025

When Power Goes Out and Generosity Lights Up
27/11/2025

When Google Maps nearly kills you and Shahed Drones actually try...
29/11/2025

Beyond the Operating Room: A Ukrainian Doctor's Journey
05/03/2025

When Reality Pierced the Propaganda:
17/12/2025

HUMANITARIAN SUPPORTUKRAINE UKRAINE WARZONE

0 comments 0

LEAVE A COMMENT

Your Comment

Name* Email* Website

Save my name, email, and website in this browser for the next time I comment.

We use cookies to improve your experience on our site. By using our site, you consent to cookies.

English

Be Part Of Something Bigger...Become a Hero...

Oleshky: Russia’s Deliberate Humanitarian Catastrophe

Russia’s War on Ukrainian Civilians: 2026’s Devastating Toll

DONATE

In times of war, we speak of heroes.

Soldiers.
Medics.
Volunteers.
Civilians who endure.

But there is another kind of hero.

The steady one.

The one who doesn’t appear in headlines.
The one who chooses consistency over drama.

That is the spirit behind the OPT Ukraine Heroes Board.

200 People. $20 a Month.

STAY UPDATED ON U

Get firsthand reports from Ukraine — humanitaria medical missions and ways make a differen

Subscribe to Blog

Free · No spam · Unsubscr

Supporting Ukraine throug Passing Thru

CATEGORIES

We use cookies to improve your experience on our site. By using our site, you consent to cookies.

0

English

Be Part Of Something Bigger...Become a Hero...

Oleshky: Russia's Deliberate Humanitarian Catastrophe

Russia's War on Ukrainian Civilians: 2026's Devastating Toll

DONATE

Why Regular Giving Changes the Relationship

Research shows recurring donors:

- Develop stronger emotional connection to the mission
- Experience higher long-term satisfaction
- Feel greater agency and hope

In other words, regular giving strengthens not only the organisation — but the giver.

It builds belonging.

And belonging matters.

You are no longer just a donor, you are a partner.

Ukraine's fight for Truth, Decency and Freedom is not short-term.

This is not a moment.
It is a marathon.

Why You Can Trust This

OPT Ukraine operates under Only Passing Thru Ltd:

- 100% volunteer-run
- No wages paid
- Founder-led by a trusted Australian doctor
- Transparent and accountable
- Flexible to direct funds where donors request

The Heroes Board is not about ego.

It is about collective courage.

Take Your Place on the Board

If you would like your initials added:

👉 **www.passingthrough.net/donating**

Ukrainian medical ed mat
audiobooks.

We use cookies to improve your experience on our site. By using our site, you consent to cookies.

0

English

Be Part Of Something Bigger...Become a Hero...

Oleshky: Russia's Deliberate Humanitarian Catastrophe

Russia's War on Ukrainian Civilians: 2026's Devastating Toll

DONATE

HEROES BOARD HERE

∗ we already have some regular givers whose initials will appear on this board, heroes w ho have been quietly standing with us for some time – THANKYOU!

You Might Be Interested In

Borscht and 4-Minute Warnings
10/11/2025

Survival in Sumy
04/04/2024

Medical Mission in Ukraine 2025 (5)
14/05/2025

A Century of Russian Aggression: It Must Stop With Ukraine
28/05/2025

Russia's War on Ukrainian Civilians: 2026's Devastating Toll
08/04/2026

The Betrayal of Ukraine
07/03/2025

DEMOCRACY FREEDOM HUMANITARIAN STANDWITHUKRAINE SUPPORTUKRAINE TRUTH UKRAINE

0 comments 0

LEAVE A COMMENT

Your Comment

We use cookies to improve your experience on our site. By using our site, you consent to cookies.

0

English

Be Part Of Something Bigger...Become a Hero...

Oleshky: Russia's Deliberate Humanitarian Catastrophe

Russia's War on Ukrainian Civilians: 2026's Devastating Toll

DONATE

@2025 - All Right Reserved. Qld Charity No. CH4586237 | ABN 62633573145 | ACNC Registered Charity

BACK TO TOP

We use cookies to improve your experience on our site. By using our site, you consent to cookies.

0